

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The reclosable fastener as claimed in claim 16, in which both the first and second upstanding profiled members further comprise hooks.

10. (Previously Presented) The reclosable fastener as claimed in claim 9, in which the first and second elements each comprise two elongate profiled members comprising hooks, with the hooks of the first profiled members being engageable with the hooks of the second profiled member.

11. (Previously Presented) The reclosable fastener as claimed in claim 16, in which the first element further comprises a first pair of protruding ribs on a face of the first body portion opposite the first profiled member, a first rib of the first pair being in alignment with the first upstanding post and a second rib of the first pair being in alignment with the first heel; and

the second element further comprises a second pair of protruding ribs on a face of the second body portion opposite the second profiled member, a first rib of the second pair being in alignment with the second upstanding post and a second rib of the second pair being in alignment with the second heel.

12. (Original) The reclosable fastener as claimed in claim 11, in which each of the ribs is overlaid with a layer of sealing/welding material.

13. (Previously Presented) The reclosable fastener as claimed in claim 12, in which the sealing/welding material comprises ethylene vinyl acetate.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The reclosable fastener as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a single flange provided on only one of the first and second elements, for attachment to a film or web.

16. (Currently Amended) A reclosable fastener for plastics bags and other containers, comprising:

a first element comprising a first elongate body portion, at least one first upstanding elongate profiled member extending away from the first body portion, a first upstanding post at a first lateral margin of the first body portion, and a first heel at a second lateral margin of the first body portion; and

a second element comprising a second elongate body portion, at least one second upstanding elongate profiled member extending away from the second body portion, a second upstanding post at a first lateral margin of the second body portion, and a second heel at a second lateral margin of the second body portion;

wherein the first and second posts each comprise an upper end surface providing an angled contact surface;

wherein the first and second profiled members are releasably engagable when the first and second elements are pressed together with the first and second profiled members facing each other in order to produce an engaged condition of the first and second elements; and

wherein, in the engaged condition, the first post and the second heel are aligned and are arranged to contact each other at least at a first pair of complementarily angled contact surfaces, one contact surface of the first pair of contact surfaces being at the upper end surface of the first post and the other contact surface of the first pair of contact surfaces being a complementarily-angled end surface of the second heel, and

further, in the engaged condition, the second post and the first heel are aligned and are arranged to contact each other at least at a second pair of complementarily angled contact surfaces, one contact surface of the second pair of contact surfaces being at the upper end surface of the second post and the other contact surface of the second pair of contact surfaces being a complementarily-angled end surface of the first heel;

wherein, in the engaged condition, the first upstanding post extends from the first body portion across a median plane of separation lying between the first and second body

DOCKET NO.: THOM-0020 (RA/P301524US)
Application No.: 10/070,467
Office Action Dated: March 16, 2005

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37 CFR § 1.116

portions to the second heel so that said first pair of contact surfaces make said contact with each other to one side of said plane and the second upstanding post extends from the second body portion across said median plane of separation so that said second pair of contact surfaces make said contact with each other to the other side of said plane, wherein, in the engaged condition, the first and the second pairs of contact surfaces lie entirely to respective opposite sides of a said median plane of separation ~~lying between the first and the second body portions,~~ the contact surfaces being angled relative to the median plane and offset therefrom in respective opposite directions perpendicular thereto; and

wherein, in the engaged condition, the first and second posts and the first and second heels form a configuration which provides resistance to compression forces exerted on the first and second elements in their engaged condition thereby substantially preventing distortion of the first and second profiled members under application of a load urging the first and second elements together and towards the median plane when in their engaged condition.